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SATURDAY
APRIL 3, 1954

The Harcourts and ourselves made a tour on the Left Bank this morning and then lunched before going to Versailles, where we visited the Petits Appartements under the guidance of a [redacted] knowledgeable female curator. I had not previously seen the du Barry rooms since their restoration. They are enchanting. A tremendous amount of work is going on in the Palace as well as in the grounds.

We went tonight to see "Le Main Forte". The tickets for this are sold out weeks in advance and it is deservedly popular. The story is that of a beautiful young woman who employs a secretary to keep her from rejoining her lover. Through three acts, the play directs itself to the inevitable end as to who will then be together in bed.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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SUNDAY
APRIL 4, 1954

Freddie Reinhardt came to see me this morning to show me Gruenther's telegrams to the Standing Group on the subject of Marshal Juin. I had talked to John Hughes about this affair yesterday as well as again this morning.

The Harcourts, the de Rougemonts, Griselda and André de Staercke lunched with us in Versailles. André and I discussed what disposition the NATO Council might take at its meeting tomorrow in regard to Juin's resignation of his NATO Command. It seemed to both of us unwise to force this issue, which has already been referred to the French Government for settlement.

While we were lunching, Blair Clarke called me to say he had been present at this morning's ceremonies at the Arc de Triomphe where Pleven had been slapped and had his hair pulled, and where the crowd tried to overturn the Prime Minister's car. De Rougemont had been one of the French officers on duty there, and said as he was leaving he saw a scuffle near where the Ministers were getting into their cars but had not thought there was anything serious about it.

Late in the afternoon the Ismays came to see us, and Pug talked to me at length about the dilemma in which the NATO Council finds itself over the Juin episode. He is inclined, as a minimum, to recommend to the Standing Group that all NATO officers be instructed at once to reread and abide by the regulations against expressing political opinions, which Juin has infringed. Pug is intensely interested in his NATO work and is intent on upholding the dignity of the Council. He is a wonderful fellow, with all the best traditional John Bull qualities.

Sasha has the measles, and this morning E. was jabbed in her back side with a supposed preventive against the disease. By night she was unable to walk, so Bill and Betty Harcourt and myself went to dine at La Mère Michèle. I was delighted to see Madame Michèle again and to find her extraordinary touch in the kitchen was unimpaired.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY OLC DATE 7-1-81
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